

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated February 20, 2008. Claims 1, 11, 12, 15 and 16 are pending in the application, of which Claims 1 and 11 are independent. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 7, 8 and 11 to 15 were objected to for various informalities. Claims 1 to 10 have been canceled herein, thereby rendering this objection moot, and the recommended changes have been made to Claims 11 and 15. Accordingly, withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

Of the remaining claims, Claims 11, 12 and 15 were rejected under § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 7,283,267 (Mitsubori) in view of U.S. Publication No. 2002/0131080 (Enomoto). Reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections are respectfully requested.

Turning to specific claim language, amended independent Claim 11 is directed to a print service system which includes an acquiring unit adapted to acquire a designated type of print devices for printing a content; a first judging unit adapted to judge whether or not the content is to be printed in color; and a print control unit adapted to print the content using a plurality of print devices having the designated type when said first judging unit judges that the content is not to be printed in color, but to print the content using one print device selected from among the plurality of print devices having the designated type when the first judging unit judges that the content is to be printed in color.

Claim 15 is directed to a method substantially in accordance with the system of Claim 11.

Applicants submit that Mitsubori and Enomoto, whether considered alone or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest all of the features of Claims 11 and 15. Specifically, the cited references, whether taken alone or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest that a acquiring a designated type of print devices for printing a content, judging whether or not a content is to be printed in color and the controlling the content using a plurality of print devices having the designated type when it is judged that the content is not to be printed in color, and printing the content using one print device selected from among the plurality of print devices having the designated type when it is judged that the content is to be printed in color.

Such a feature is described in the specification of the present application by, especially, Fig. 15 and the description at page 56, line 9, to page 58, line 15. Step 1507 and steps 1509 to 1504 of Fig. 15 show printing the content using a plurality of print devices having the designated type when it is judged that the content is not to be printed in color, and printing the content using one print device selected from among the plurality of print devices having the designated type when it is judged that the content is to be printed in color.

In contrast, Mitsubori discloses judging whether document image data is monochrome or color in S907 of Fig. 25, and if the document image data is color, the image data is printed in steps S908 and S909 of Fig. 25, but if the document image data is monochrome and an output printer is cable for color printing, a Web page is downloaded at steps S913 and S914 of Fig. 25 and Web page image data is printed in color at steps S915 to S917 of Fig. 25.

However, Mitsubori is entirely silent regarding printing the content using a plurality of print devices having the designated type when it is judged that the content is not to be printed in color, but to print the content using one print device selected from among the plurality

of print devices having the designated type when it is judged that the content is to be printed in color.

Furthermore, Enomoto, as referred to in dependent claim 12, only discloses processing when a print order is reorder. Therefore, Enomoto also gives no hint or suggestion to print the content using a plurality of print devices having the designated type when it is judged that the content is not to be printed in color, but to print the content using one print device selected from among the plurality of print devices having the designated type when it is judged that the content is to be printed in color. Therefore, even if Mitsubori and Enomoto were combined, which Applicants do not concede is permissible, they cannot disclose or suggest the system featured in Claim 11 or the method of Claim 15.

Furthermore, Applicants have reviewed the remaining cited references, and submits that Chiba, Kemp and Knapp, also give no hint or suggestion to print the content using a plurality of print devices having the designated type when it is judged that the content is not to be printed in color, but to print the content using one print device selected from among the plurality of print devices having the designated type when it is judged that the content is to be printed in color.

In light of the deficiencies of the cited references as discussed above, Applicants submit that Claims 11 and 15 are now in condition for allowance and respectfully request same.

The other pending claims in this application are each dependent from the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

CONCLUSION

No claim fees are believed due; however, should it be determined that additional claim fees are required, the Director is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account 50-3939.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, CA office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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